

**Remarks**

In response to the Detailed Action mailed March 6, 2003, the Applicant thanks the Office for the careful consideration given the present application. With the ensuing remarks, the Applicant has endeavored to respond most properly to each of the points raised by the Office to ensure that the remaining claims are allowable in all respects. With this in mind, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Office review and allow the claims.

In the Detailed Action, the Office indicated that claims 1-4 were anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,759,937 to Spector. However, the Office found that claims 5 through 25 would be allowable if rewritten to stand independently including all limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims because Applicant's argument concerning the coplanar arrangement of fish pieces was persuasive. Furthermore, the Office allowed claims 26-45.

In response, the Applicant has amended base claim 1 in reliance on the Office's expressed opinion regarding the coplanar arrangement of the fish pieces. More particularly, claim 1 has been amended to specify, among other things, that "the larger food product comprises a shrimp product," that "the first food product comprises a mother shrimp with a proximal end, a distal end, and a body portion with a centerline," and that "the second food product comprises a first child product with a proximal end, a distal end, and a body portion wherein the mother shrimp and first child product are joined in an effectively coplanar arrangement and whereby the mother shrimp and the

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first child product together form the larger shrimp product." The Applicant most respectfully submits that these amendments place claim 1 and each of claims 3-25, which depend therefrom, in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Applicant most respectfully requests that the Office reconsider and allow those claims.

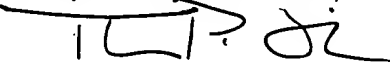
**Conclusion**

In light of the above, the Applicant respectfully submits that each of presently pending claims 1 and 3-45 is directed to patentably nonobvious invention. With this in mind, the Office's reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

In closing, the Applicant notes that he believes that he has fully responded to all issues raised in the Detailed Action. If, after consideration of the above amendments and comments, there remain any open issues in this application that possibly can be resolved by a telephone interview, then the Applicant's undersigned attorney most respectfully requests that he be called to discuss and attempt to resolve those issues.

9/4/2003  
Date

Respectfully submitted,

  
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